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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE words "complete" and "finished" are usually regarded as synonymous, yet careful writers discriminate in their use according to the occasion. We lately essayed to compliment Secretary Morton as "the complete letter-writer of the Cabinet," but the Secretary himself begs to be written down as "finished," and we duly respect the fine discrimination with which he has chosen the word.

It is becoming more and more apparent that the two sections of the Democratic party have come to the parting of the ways over the silver question, but it is far from certain that the party

will be weakened by the split. Some time since the inevitable split threatened to assume such proportions as would disrupt the party, but it is becoming more and more evident that President Cleveland represents but a minority, and a small minority, of the Democratic party. The Wall Street wing is alone a unit in support of the President and his pet hobbies of gold-monometallism and free trade, while the masses seem a unit in demanding that silver be restored to its place as money, and far from being brow-beaten by the threats of their at-one-time-adored leader, retort by threatening to read him and his friends out of the party.

The gold papers professed to receive much comfort from the action of the Democratic Convention of Kentucky, although nominating a free silver man for Governor, and they exchanged congratulations on "the certain defeat of Senator Blackburn;" but the Kentucky Democrats are nominating supporters of Blackburn for the Legislature, and his return to the Senate seems assured. Mississippi Democrats are almost a unit for bimetallism, although Governor Stone, aided by the forces of the national administration, has done all in his power to stem the tide. And the Democrats of Georgia, joined by not a few Populists and Republicans, assembling at Griffin in the largest and most representative convention held since the war, denounce the policy of the administration and declare for the immediate restoration of silver to its place as money, while the ringing address of Senator Morgan spurning the attempt of "the high priest of finance" (Mr. Cleveland) to dictate to his party, which was received with tumultuous applause, leaves no doubt of where the Democrats of Georgia stand.

The Democratic party is far more likely to be strengthened than weakened by being purged of Mr. Cleveland and his gold allies. An opportunity is open to the Republicans, but they must accept it at once or it will pass.

THE administration has thrown Secretary Hoke Smith into the gap to rally the gold forces, but the Democrats of Georgia are in no mood to pay much attention to the threat that the restoration of silver to its place as money "would produce disastrous consequences, attendant upon a violent and enormous contraction of currency." It is against just such an enormous contraction of the volume of money resulting from the demonetization of silver, and which the gold men tell us can do no harm, that the bimetallists revolt. Without considering this inconsistency Mr. Hoke Smith tells his fellow-citizens that the immediate effects of the election of a President friendly to silver would be to drive at once \$678,000,000 of gold (double the amount really in the country) and \$375,000,000 of greenbacks and Treasury notes out of circulation; that credit money would be destroyed, business paralyzed and prices fall to an unheard-of level. But Mr. Smith does not consider, much less explain, that the immediate effect of such a fall in prices would make America a good market to buy in, but a bad market to sell in; that consequently the balance of trade would turn much in our favor and make it impossible for foreigners to take either our gold or our silver.

MR. HOKE SMITH also deals in history. He asserts that we were unable to keep the value of silver up to gold under the Free-coinage act of 1792; and, on the other hand, that we were unable to keep gold up to silver under the Free-coinage act of 1834. Is it, then, a fact in the financial history of the United States that within the twenty years after the war of 1812, the currency of the country was silver exclusively? Or, again, that in the fifteen years before the discovery of gold in California, the currency was exclusively gold? There was a controversy about currency in those periods, but it turned on the issue of bank notes, under authority of the general government. It was a controversy about coin (gold and silver) *versus* paper. The warfare waged by President Jackson against the United States Bank was for "hard money." The sobriquet of his partisan, Senator Thomas H. Benton, was "Old Bullion." Throughout the whole period down to 1850, the currency was chiefly silver; then under the influence of the discovery of gold in California, the stock of this metal increased, but neither was ever discriminated against until the war compelled the suspension of specie payments.

WHILE the unfriends of silver threaten us with the bugaboo of contraction, exports of gold are resumed. Over a million in gold was sent abroad last Saturday, smaller sums having already preceded this outflow. The Morgan syndicate was understood to be pledged to stay this tide until October, but has been unable or unwilling to perform this part of its bargain. As it was not required to use foreign gold in filling up the Treasury to its former level of safety, so in other parts of its fulfillment of the contract it has been allowed by the government to follow the lines of least resistance. The bargain has been easy and profitable for the syndicate, and the government is at its mercy.

THE syndicate, relying, we are told, on the expectation that the government would pay out light coin to those presenting legal tender notes in exchange for gold for shipment, held exchange at abnormally high rates, thus reaping a large profit with the aid of the national Treasury. But gold having gone in spite of them, now the syndicate seems prepared to let go to get a better hold. A few millions of more gold exported, together with the daily increasing deficit, and another bond issue will be thought to be necessary and another commission will be paid to the syndicate.

But we are told that the members of the syndicate desirous of placing loans abroad will do all in their power to check gold exports. From the statements of the *New York Post* we gather that the syndicate has not only drawn against the bonds and other securities sold in London, but against their own credit, expecting to be able to buy exchange to cover their sales when the bills drawn against shipments of grain come on the market. No imports of gold this autumn may, therefore, be expected in payment for our grain exported, and it is of no little significance that the gold exported last Saturday was sent in the face of the reported sale of two railroad loans in London, against which bills of exchange would naturally be drawn.

MR. GEORGE W. SMALLEY, who formerly enlightened the readers of the *New York Tribune* on English affairs, has changed his base to this side of the Atlantic and now entertains the readers of the *London Times* with his views of men and things in America. Perhaps his most remarkable contribution in this line is his testimony to the immense debt of gratitude that England owes to Mr. Chauncey M. Depew. This able and eloquent railroad president, it appears from Mr. Smalley's letter, effectually stopped the "silver craze" by his speech to the Chamber of Commerce in Detroit in May last. We are assured that this golden speech, whose echoes reach us in this roundabout way, brought the Western Republicans back to line. But this able letter-writer has been so long abroad that he probably does not know what the actual line of the Republican party is, or has been. Both the great parties of the country declared in their national platforms,

in 1892, in favor of bimetallism. There is, however, one thing evident, that Mr. Depew invited Mr. Smalley to dinner, and everything thereafter wore a golden hue.

THE American admirers of English institutions, under the influence of the present campaign in the United Kingdom, are calling for shorter political campaigns in this country. They have not yet gone so far as to suggest a series of elections straggling over weeks. The tendency of Americans is to concentrate the decisive action into the shortest possible time. Hence the old-fashioned October State elections have been done away with, though a few States, whose action has no general significance, still cling to elections in August and September.

Presidential conventions meeting in the summer are subject to all the inconveniences due to the effects of hot weather on human temper and infirmities. The danger of hasty, inconsiderate action is, however, not so great as might be expected. Besides, the very Declaration of Independence was hastened, if we may trust the story attributed to Jefferson, by the summer heats and the flies, which pierced the silk stockings of the Fathers.

THE New York papers are discussing the question whether that city has yet had a "dry Sunday." There is no dispute that the License law is enforced with greater strictness than has ever been exhibited before. Senator Hill has come forth in a characteristic letter defending the "fast and loose" practice of Tammany as the only one adapted to the necessities of an American city. Contrast this special pleading for rampant evil with the manly utterances of Mr. Roosevelt! The American people, if true to their past, will certainly sustain the Police Commissioners in endeavoring to enforce the laws, even if they cannot, in the half-foreign districts of New York City, secure its full execution. The German population, who are generally supposed to be beyond argument in such matters, show signs of falling into line with the most intelligent native-born Americans.

IN the prostrating heat of midsummer a financial debate of general interest has been held in Chicago between Roswell G. Horr, ex-member of Congress from Michigan, and Mr. W. H. Harvey, who has come into prominence as the author of the breezy book, "Coin's Financial School." Mr. Horr is an able debater, who has risen from humble walks of life to national recognition. He is especially noted for his skillful handling of the question of protection, and as he was once a farm laborer, he is able to support that doctrine with arguments which commend themselves to farmers and tradesmen. He is naturally witty and wise, and we think that if he had given as much practical attention to financial questions as he has to economics, he would be found on the other side in the present debate. Mr. Harvey is a young man, whose ability has won recognition from thousands of readers, and has secured a place among the leaders of thought, as is admitted even by those who denounce his financial writings as heresy and ridicule his methods.

MR. QUAY has broken the silence which marks his usual course in his campaigns, by declaring that he is in favor of either Mr. Reed or Governor McKinley for the Presidency; that he does not know whether Senator Cameron desires a renomination, and hence would not be so discourteous as to declare for or against that in advance, and, finally, that he is opposed to free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1.

It is acknowledged by Mr. Quay's friends that he has always been on the losing side in national conventions; however he has managed to come to the front later. There is no reason to think that he will be any shrewder in the next canvass than he has been heretofore, whatever be the result of his present struggle for Chairmanship of the Republican State Committee. The outlook is that he has lost his grip.

THE city of Philadelphia has been disappointed that its offer of a loan of \$1,250,000 for general improvements has called forth few bidders, whose total subscriptions did not amount, at the first opening, to \$200,000. The Mayor then announced that further subscriptions would be received up to the next meeting of the City Councils in September. About \$300,000 altogether have thus been received. The reason of this unforeseen failure to obtain money is that the bonds offered will yield but 3 per cent. The bonds for the Reading Railroad subway, which are to be offered soon by the city, will yield 4, and investors are likely to wait for the chance of the higher rate.

THE latest returns of the elections for members of Parliament indicate what we are accustomed to call a "landslide." There is an overwhelming majority for the Conservatives over all other parties and factions. Liberals, Liberal-Unionists, McCarthyites, Healyites, Parnellites, Labor-men, are in one vast slaughter blent. Here and there a seat lately filled by a Conservative is won by a Liberal, but in the whole field disaster upon disaster has overtaken those formerly known as Gladstonians. The potent voice and able hand of their former great leader have been wanting, and his feeble successors have no hold on the sources of his strength. Harcourt and Morley have fallen in their strongholds, and others of less renown are among the missing. The boroughs generally have completed their elections; the county districts will only emphasize the foregoing results.

Before the elections began, the Liberal-Unionists eagerly announced the permanence of their partnership with the Conservatives, and the present Ministry gave places to Devonshire, Chamberlain and their followers. But the rank and file of the Tory party have no love for these Liberal allies; and the absolute majority of the Conservatives will necessitate a speedy reconstruction of the Cabinet to conform to the actual condition of the House of Commons. Chamberlain, whom *Punch* lately presented as "the climbing boy" mounted on the shoulders of Salisbury, will assuredly get a tumble. Again, the ambitious engineer will be "hoist with his own petard," and "Judas" will go to his own place.

Lord Salisbury came into power with no programme but dissolution. He is bound by no pledges, and is at perfect liberty to gratify the sentiment of the party whose leader he has been in prosperity and adversity since the death of Beaconsfield. The present Cabinet shows an undue proportion of Liberal-Unionists, which it would neither be wise nor expedient to attempt to maintain. It is not unlikely, however, that the Duke of Devonshire will be retained as the President of the Council and practical head of the Committee of National Defense. It was a question about the sufficiency of ammunition that upset the Rosebery Ministry, and in forming the new Cabinet Lord Salisbury adopted ideas which the Duke of Devonshire had been urging for years past. By continuing this arrangement Lord Salisbury will give unity and efficiency to the work of home defense, which English statesmen feel to be a matter of pressing importance, and will give sufficient recognition to his nominal allies.

THE various measures which formed the Newcastle programme of the Rosebery administration were, first, home rule; second, the disestablishment of the church in Wales; third, the local veto, corresponding to what is called local option in this country; fourth, "one man, one vote," besides some minor matters. In course of time, the reconstruction of the House of Lords was added. But the multifarious character of this platform tended to destroy the harmony of the party, and it was finally evident that it was stronger on the first question than on any other. When home rule was rejected by the House of Lords, Rosebery should at once have appealed to the country, and the Liberals, even if defeated at the elections, would have been stronger than they are likely to be for many years to come.

Sir William Harcourt was defeated in the Liberal stronghold of Derby for his advocacy of the local veto. By the flexible arrangement of Parliamentary representation which prevails in Great Britain, he has since been returned from West Monmouth. The lesson of the Derby election is that Parliament must not meddle with the Englishman's inalienable right to drink.

THE school question in Manitoba has given constant trouble to the authorities of the Dominion of Canada. At the formation of the Dominion in 1867, guarantees were given to the old French Canadians that their separate school system would not be disturbed. But the Protestant population has since increased until it now stands seven to one. They declared in favor of non-sectarian education, and put it in force. The Provincial Supreme Court upheld this action, but the Dominion Supreme Court reversed it, and when appeal was taken to the Privy Council, it sustained the local court.

The question came again before the Governor in Council, and his decision in favor of the people of Manitoba caused a disruption of the Ministry. Three French members of the Cabinet withdrew, though one was afterwards induced to return. Finally a truce was patched up, on the ground that the solution of the question belongs to the next Parliament which will meet in January. But, in fact, no satisfactory solution is likely to be reached. The struggle will go on for many years to come.

IN South America the dispute over the Venezuelan boundary is not the only one in which European governments are interested. While England seeks on one side to extend British Guiana to the Orinoco, France wishes on the other to encroach on Brazil and reach the Amazon. The boundaries of these European colonies have never been accurately defined by treaty. There is a possibility that the Eldorado which attracted Sir Walter Raleigh in the sixteenth century may furnish new openings to adventurers in the twentieth. The gold mines which baffled his search have again come to light, and the contest for possession has commenced.

THE character of the selfish and worthless Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria becomes more contemptible, now that the attention of the world has been drawn to him. He remains at Carlsbad, surrounded by his suite and avoided by decent people, having been warned by his Ministry not to return to Bulgaria in the present critical state of affairs. Stambouloff was the leader of the extreme Liberals, and by his harsh and severe measures had done much to alienate moderate friends of reform and nationality, as well as to rouse to fury the partisans of Russia. The organs of the Czar's government declare its purpose not to interfere as long as Ferdinand is allowed to remain the nominal sovereign.

A PUBLIC MENACE.

THE practice of counting the balances due the country banks by the banks of the reserve cities (Albany, Baltimore, Boston, Cincinnati, Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Louisville, Milwaukee, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, San Francisco and Washington), and as authorized by the National Bank act as a portion of their reserves, and of counting the balances due the banks of the reserve cities by the banks of New York as reserve in lieu of cash held in their own vaults, is a menace to the public. The balances due the country banks by the banks of the reserve cities are used like all other deposits and no special provision is made for their repayment; but because of their permanency interest is generally paid on such deposits. That balances due by the banks of the reserve cities, especially New York, are not available when needed, depositors of the local banks have often found to their cost.

Only two years since the banks of New York, while loudly proclaiming their solvency, refused to repay these balances when

demand, and as a result many country banks were forced to the wall and their customers ruined. In times of panic, the banks of New York refuse to pay their depositors in legal tender money, tendering them their own evidences of indebtedness—Clearing House certificates—when payment is demanded. Of course, such evidences of indebtedness, payable only through the Clearing House, and then only by offset and the creation of new evidences of debt, are of no use to the country banks in meeting the demands of their depositors.

The New York banks would, it is true, prefer, and they are urgent in their demand, that this nation hand over the control of the currency to them and legalize the issue of their own evidences of indebtedness in settlement of the claims of their depositors. But in the absence of such concession they have not hesitated in times of panics—panics brought on purposely to serve their selfish motives by the arbitrary contraction of credits—to usurp the powers reserved to the government and issue their own evidences of indebtedness as money, although prohibited so to do by law, and although they thereby subject themselves to the forfeiture of their charters, confidently depending on their power over the national government to escape such penalty.

The country banks are required to keep a reserve amounting to 15 per cent. of their circulation and deposits, but three-fifths of this reserve may consist of balances due them by banks in the reserve cities; and while the banks of the reserve cities are required to keep a reserve of 25 per cent., one-half of this may be kept on deposit with the New York banks.

The practice of counting such balances as reserve gives an apparent but no real security to the depositors of the country banks. Such balances are no more available for the payment of depositors than the paper and securities and other assets held by the banks. The repayment of the balances due by the banks of the reserve cities depends upon the ability of those banks to realize on their assets. Such reserve balances should in no manner be counted as cash.

The bank in Pennsylvania that has circulation and deposits amounting to \$100,000 is required to keep \$15,000 as reserve, nominally cash. But of this it is only required to keep \$6,000 in its own vaults. The balance may be kept on deposit with a bank or banks of Philadelphia or other reserve city, and as interest is paid on such balances the reserve is generally so kept. To secure such deposits, as well as others, the Philadelphia banks are required to keep a reserve of 25 per cent., nominally cash, but one-half of this may in turn be kept in the New York banks. As a result, depositors, supposedly secured by \$15,000 in cash, are really secured by \$6,000 in the vaults of the bank and by \$9,000 deposited in Philadelphia, which is secured by \$1,125 cash in the vaults of the Philadelphia banks, and \$281.25 in the vaults of the New York banks. Instead of being secured by \$15,000, the depositors may be secured by but \$7,406.25. If the reserve held should be larger, the proportions may be still less.

But aside from the lack of security the welfare of the country is menaced by another evil of much greater magnitude, growing out of the practice of counting deposits in the reserve cities, and especially New York as reserve. It centralizes the surplus funds of the country banks in the banks of New York, and places all other banks, in times of panic, at the mercy of the Clearing House Committee which dictates the policy of the New York banks. The banks outside of New York become mere branches, and the proportionate power of the New York banks becomes so great that they are enabled to dictate to the banks of the whole country. Credits are expanded and contracted all over the country, at their command, and without regard to local conditions, until finally the local banks lean on the banks of New York for both leadership and support.

As a result the banks are enabled to take what would otherwise be large risks with safety, and thus encourage speculation

with impunity, for they know that when the crash comes it will be the people that suffer, not the banks.

The banks of the reserve cities should not be permitted to pay, or the country banks to receive, interest on deposits with the banks of the reserve cities, especially New York. Money should be kept in its natural channels, and not artificially attracted to New York, a circumstance which gives to the banks of New York their great superiority. The withdrawal of the reserves of the country banks deposited in New York banks would destroy their power to dictate to the country.

EFFORT OF THE BANKS TO CONTROL THE CURRENCY.

WHATEVER their motive, it is an indisputable fact that the great majority of our bank managers join lustily in the hue and cry against silver and give wide currency to the catch-phrases of "dishonest" and "50-cent" dollar. There are indeed some notable exceptions among bank officers, especially in the country banks of the South and West, who, foreseeing the disasters that the single gold standard must bring in its wake, boldly advocate the prompt restoration of silver to its place as money. But as the bankers of the large cities are almost a unit in support of gold-monometallism it is not surprising that the impression should have taken root in many quarters that the interests of the banking classes are antagonistic to the interests of the public, and it is not unnatural that they should be regarded as standing especially and distinctly as the champions of the appreciating gold standard.

It is significant that in joining the crusade against silver, the banks while vehemently demanding that silver should be discarded as a money metal, urge with great earnestness that its place be filled by the issue of bank currency—currency not based on either gold or silver, but on the capital of the respective banks.

Under the plea that the silver dollar is "dishonest" and a "50-cent dollar," they propose to drive it from circulation and replace it by bank currency resting only on the credit of the banks, and they have the effrontery to declare that the silver dollar that has value in itself is dishonest and must be discarded, while the bank dollar that rests on credit and is worth nothing in itself is not only honest but desirable.

Banks are a great power for evil or for good. Well directed they facilitate circulation, economize the use of the precious metals, aid the distribution of the products of labor and tend to that regularity of movement and production which is conducive to development and progress. Ill directed they tend, by the arbitrary expansion and contraction of credits, to the production of irregularity of prices, thus stimulating the gambling propensities of man, and by making the reward of industry uncertain retard production and check enterprise and progress.

Unfortunately bank officers are prone to yield to the temptations of illegitimate profit, short-lived it is true, and losing sight of their true interests and of their duty to the public, all too readily follow the dictates of short-sighted selfishness. They should do all in their power, by the proper expansion and contraction of credits in response to the demands of trade, to insure stability of prices and make violent fluctuations in prices impossible, thus aiding greatly in the just distribution of wealth and encouraging production; but they have been too ready to abandon this, their true function, and to turn the banks into great speculative agents. Thus we have seen prices fluctuate in response to arbitrary expansion and contraction of credits, to the ruin of producers but to the profit of those who engineered the expansion to be followed by contraction. With this selfish end in view the banks seek to control the power over the currency which should be exercised by the national government, thus

redoubling their power, and securing themselves against any possible storm arising out of their manipulations of the markets.

But it is a mistake to confound the banks with the purely money-lending classes. They are not simply loaners of money, but dealers in money. They are borrowers as well as lenders; debtors as well as creditors. An appreciating gold standard would, then, hurt them by increasing the burden of their debts as well as benefit them by increasing the value of their credits, and it might be supposed that the banks would therefore not follow the lead of the purely creditor classes, but advocate as justice demands, and their true interests dictate, the maintenance of a stable standard of value. Yet the bankers are almost unanimous in their support of an appreciating gold standard, and we naturally look for a common incentive.

This incentive lies deeper than the simple desire of the money-lenders to enhance the value of the money due them by their debtors. The scheme of the banks is to control the currency of the country, to have all legal tender notes, as well as silver notes, destroyed or driven from circulation and to replace them by their own issues of unsecured notes made by law legal tender. Thus, in the Baltimore plan, they proposed the funding of the legal tenders and the issue of bank notes to fill their place based on the capital of the banks.

Should they succeed in monopolizing the power to issue legal tender money and in having the control of the currency placed in their own hands, they can then expand and contract the money of the country, causing ruinous fluctuations in prices with entire impunity. Producers would be destroyed that the banks might profit without fear of loss. Their own evidences of indebtedness being declared legal tender, no storm occasioned by contraction could shake the banks, but all producers would be placed at their mercy. The banks would pay their depositors with their own evidences of indebtedness (this they have already done in times of panic without legal authority, refusing to pay their depositors except in their own due bills, Clearing House certificates), and having entire control of the money of the country, they could charge their customers what they would for its use and be enabled to fix the price of all the products of labor.

But if this is their aim, why should they support the gold standard? And why should they desire to enhance the value of gold in which they must redeem their notes? This is a mere subterfuge. By driving silver from circulation and increasing the value of gold they know that the tension will become intense and they hope that the people will then be tempted by the offer of relief held out by the banks and place the control of the currency in their hands. Any attempt to expand credit money based on the narrow supply of gold would necessarily result in driving gold out of the country, and, as a result, no expansion would result and no relief be afforded. As paper money was issued prices would rise, encouraging imports and checking exports, the balance of trade and interest charges would accumulate against us and gold would be exported to settle this adverse balance. As long as any gold remained no expansion could result, for as fast as the banks issued paper gold would be exported.

At last we would be reduced to an irredeemable paper basis, the banks would no longer be required to redeem their notes and all check to their issues would be removed. This is what the banks desire, what they work for. Money, the great instrument of association, passing into their hands, they would be enabled to stimulate and curtail production at will and the greatest of all monopolies would be placed in their hands, to be used for their own benefit.

The only safe path lies in broadening the basis of our money by restoring silver to its place as money, in encouraging the organization of banks that will constitute independent financial centers in themselves and freeing them from the power and influence of the banks centralized in the great cities.

GOLD A FRAUDULENT MEASURE.

IN order to facilitate commerce and avoid wrangling between buyers and sellers, which must of necessity result in losses to both, thus placing an unnecessary tax on the exchange of products, it is indispensable that weights and measures should be determined with absolute exactitude. No people would tolerate a yardstick of perpetually changing length, a pound of changing weight or a gallon or bushel of changing capacity. Governments have taken precautions to protect their people against the perils and losses occasioned by false weights and measures, to fix them with scrupulous care, and to place weights and measures on such a permanent basis and bind them so firmly, hard and fast, that they cannot vary in any degree whatsoever.

At an enormous amount of work and painstaking, and with a view to obtaining unimpeachable exactitude, the French Government in inaugurating the metric system of weights and measures, incurred the expense of measuring a quadrant of a great circle of the earth and assumed as her unit of length, the *meter*, the ten-millionth part of the quadrant thus measured and ascertained. The cube of the tenth part of the meter she adopted as her unit for the measure of quantity, the *liter*, and she based the unit of weight, the *gramme*, on the thousandth part of a liter of water at 4° centigrade. Thus France has fixed absolutely the measure of length, weight and capacity.

The English system, which we have adopted, is not based on such a scientific basis; but, at stated periods, in conformity with an old custom, and with much pomp and ceremony, the official standard of length, which is of bronze, is taken from the Tower in London, where it is kept under lock and seal and compared with the existing measures for verification.

Such care and such ceremony go to show with what importance, and rightly, governments look upon the necessity of having fixed and permanent measures. Yet, after all this painstaking to secure precise measures of weight, capacity and area, governments have been cajoled into tampering with the most important standard of all, the standard of value, so as to double its value.

The great recommendation of gold and silver as a standard with which to compare the value of commodities, is their natural tendency to steadiness, for while the total quantity of wheat or cotton or sugar produced in any year is consumed within the year, and a crop failure may make a change of 100 per cent. in price, the quantity of gold and silver produced in any year bears only a small proportion to the total stock in existence, and therefore a total failure of production or a doubling of production in any one year will only have a gradual and small tendency, either to raise or depress their value.

So long as gold and silver were used jointly, fluctuations and considerable fluctuations in value occurred, but they were gradual and comparatively harmless; but when silver was discarded and the burden thrown on gold alone, gold fluctuated violently and constantly upwards. Before silver was discarded the value of the products of labor were measured by the total stock of both gold and silver in use as money; now they are measured by gold alone. Before 1873 the value of products was measured by approximately \$3,500,000,000 of gold and an equal amount of silver, and by means of this gold and silver (the circulation of which was facilitated then, as now, by the use of checks, etc.), all exchanges of products, save those few made by barter, were carried on. Many times this gold and silver turned over during the year, and just so many times an equal amount of commodities changed hands.

But now silver being discarded the \$4,000,000,000 of gold in use as money is required to turn over the same amount of commodities as heretofore were turned over by \$7,000,000,000 of gold and silver. Before 1873 the total amount of commodities pressing for sale at one time, equaled in value the \$7,000,000,000 of gold and silver in use as money; now the same commodities must be

measured by and sold for \$4,000,000,000 of gold, or remain unsold. The \$4,000,000,000 of gold is stretched to do the work heretofore done by \$7,000,000,000 of gold and silver. It is like stretching the yardstick, adding to the weight of the pound, or increasing the size of the bushel, only doubly dishonest because hidden, and many times more far-reaching because it affects all transactions.

Further, population has increased, and if the interchange of commodities had not been checked by the increased cost of obtaining money, and the consequent increased tax on the exchange of products, transactions would have increased greatly in the last two decades. Not only have prices fallen, in many instances one-half, but the volume of transactions has been curtailed, not because of obstacles to production, but because of the difficulty of finding a purchaser for the things produced. Production has not kept pace with the growth of population, not even in the production of the necessities of life.

To speak of the impossibility of having two standards is begging the question. Bimetallists do not ask for two standards, but for one stable standard—a standard based on two commodities, gold and silver. But by making our standard of value out of two commodities, no more gives us two measures of value than the making of one yardstick out of metal and another out of wood gives us two measures of length.

LET MISS LINDY PASS.

LIZZARD on de fence rail,
Black snake in de grass,
Rabbit in de brier patch—
Oh, let Miss Lindy pass!

Let Miss Lindy pass—
Her foot won't ben' de grass!
Rabbit, lizzard, black snake,
Oh, let Miss Lindy pass!

Squirrel in de co'nfiel',
Eat yo' br'akfas' fas'!
Set up straight an' watch de gate
An' let Miss Lindy pass.

Let Miss Lindy pass
Lak' de sunshine on de grass!
Set up straight an' watch de gate
An' let Miss Lindy pass.

White rose in de gyarden walk,
Wid a dewdrap lookin'-glass,
Bresh dat dew f'um off'en yo'
An' let Miss Lindy pass.

Let Miss Lindy pass,
An' she'll pin yo' on at las';
De goodness knows she's de sweetes' rose—
So let Miss Lindy pass!

FRANK L. STANTON.

WOMAN'S WAYS.

WE are in love's land to-day,
Where shall we go?
Love, shall we start or stay?
Or sail or row?
There's many a wind and way,
And never a May but May;
We are in love's land to-day,
Where shall we go?

Our land wind is the breath
Of sorrows kissed to death,
And joys that were,
Our ballast is a rose,
Our way lies where God knows,
And love knows where:
We are in love's land to-day.

Every mother should teach her daughter at an early age the uselessness, bad taste and general unpleasantness of "nagging."

Remember that while the ingenue is attractive it is but a step from the ingenue to the idiot. And the idiot is not attractive—even to man.

Never allow yourself to seem jealous. Jealousy argues a consciousness of inferiority, and the absence of jealousy a calm belief in one's own perfection.

A woman is a thing direct from God, a sacred and delicate gift of affection, so vast that nothing but God can measure its bounds, and of such value that you cannot know it.

"The solitude of ranch life" was ascribed by doctors as the cause of the insanity of a woman brought to an asylum at Seattle, Wash., from a ranch in the interior of that State a few days ago.

Every good housekeeper is proud of her cellar when its shelves are well stocked with preserves and other fruit dainties for winter use. Now is her busy season, and the work of preserving is going on merrily, whether or no the new woman is abroad in the land.

Lady Spencer Clifford, of England, has just past with first honors the examination for a sea captain's license, and if she desires to do so, she can now serve as master of any ship on the high seas. But her immediate purpose is to be qualified as captain of her own yacht.

A curious use for a husband is reported from Clerkenwell, London, where a Mr. Lamb and his wife keep a small shop. For fourteen years the firm has avoided paying taxes by the wife's sending the husband to jail to serve out the legal time for unpaid taxes, while she remains at the store attending to business.

Lady Mary Hamilton-Douglas, the eleven-year-old daughter of the late Duke of Hamilton, will be one of the richest heiresses of the age. Her father could not leave her his titles, but left her the bulk of his property, including the Isle of Arran, which is larger than the Isle of Wight. Her income now is \$800,000 a year, and will be a million and a quarter by the time she comes of age.

The Eastport (Me.) *Sentinel* notes as an honored visitor in that town, Miss Burta Grace Boyd, known as the Grace Darling of the St. Croix, who has charge of the Ledge Light, located about six miles below St. Stephen, and who won her worthy title twelve years ago by saving, alone and unaided, two young sailors from certain death, a deed of bravery recognized by the Dominion Government, which presented her with a handsome, well-equipped lifeboat and a beautiful gold watch. Miss Boyd is the daughter of Captain John Boyd, for years keeper of the light. Since his death Miss Boyd has faithfully performed the keeper's duties. She is described as a petite body, whom one would never credit with sufficient physical prowess for the deeds she has done, but the great things are achieved by the great spirit, so often found in small frames.

A CHAPTER ABOUT CHILDREN.

IF all the boys and girls you know
Would romp and play and run
With you all day, I'm sure you'd say,
"My, what a lot of fun!"

And if all the little boys and girls
On days when they must go
To school, would study half as hard,—
My, what a lot they'd know!

"My birthday is April-Fool's Day," said Jack, "but I don't care. That don't make me a fool, any more than being born on the Fourth of July would make a firecracker of me."

A little girl whose parents recently moved to another city, and who is now enjoying her first experience in living in a block, thus described it in a letter to another child: "This is a very queer place. Next door is fastened on our house."

One of the days had come that will force itself occasionally on all housekeepers—the girl had left unexpectedly, and a large amount of extra work had fallen upon me. Bedtime had come, and six-year-old Carl was undressing. The cares of the day had not worn upon his nerves, nor had the hours of play reduced his stock

of spirits perceptibly. I was tired out and annoyed by his antics and spoke rather sharply to him. He went quietly on undressing for a couple of minutes, then sat down on the edge of the bed and said, in a soft voice, with a loving look on his chubby face: "It sounds as if you were cross, like other people, when you are very tired and speak that way, but I don't care!" Dear little fellow! the quiet rebuke so innocently given went home. The loyal belief in my inability to be really cross, "like other people," touched me and banished all irritability. If only we could live at all times so as to keep alive the childish belief in our perfection! Let us treasure it as long as we can by trying our best to deserve it.

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The little girls of Japan celebrate a dolls' festival on the third day of the third month in each year. This festival is a most important affair, and is kept up for three days. All the dolls are brought out and dressed in their best. In Mr. Hearn's delightful book on Japan he tells us about this festival. He says these dolls often represent gods and goddesses—the Seven Gods of Good Luck, the God who Loves Laughter and the God of Beautiful Writing. Mr. Hearn asked one little girl, when he discovered that some of the little girls believed their dolls could live, "How can a doll live?" and she answered, "Why, if you love it well enough it will live." It is this love for their dolls that makes the little Japanese girls take such good care of them; and it is quite a common thing to find a little girl playing with a doll that had been used by her mother, grandmother and her great-grandmother.

In the gardens of the homes of the poor people in Japan are trees which they worship. When a doll is broken (for even in Japan little girls sometimes break dolls) they do not bury them or throw them away, or send them to the hospital for poor children, as many of our little girls do, but they carry them out to these sacred trees and put them up in the limbs or at the foot of the tree or in the shrine; so that even when they are useless as playthings, they still are objects of care to the little Japanese girls; and Mr. Hearn tells us that sometimes you will see a new doll, or a doll in perfect condition, in one of these shrines or trees, and then you know that the little girl is dead and that her mother has put it there.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

LONDON, July 13, 1895.

WE are now living in an atmosphere of election manifestoes, briefs and leaflets; politics are in everyone's mouth, and the papers devote columns daily to the vast amount of news which an election ordinarily brings with it. Yet, despite the excitement and turmoil that canvassing and polling always cause, the country seems to consider the crisis a very innocent one. It loses sight of the immense change that has taken place in the last fortnight in English politics. The union that was effected some nine years ago between the Conservatives and a rebellious section of Mr. Gladstone's party did not give at the time any indication of the great revolution it was about to work in the constitution of our political parties. The Liberal-Unionists who, on objecting to the Home Rule bill, broke away from their venerable chief, were received diffidently, nay coldly, by the Tories at first. Although including men of the most exceptional ability, the new party had great difficulty in forcing its way into the council chamber of the Conservatives; for obvious reasons the members of the "renegade" detachment could not intervene for some time in debate; they had to sit and watch; to stifle all the sentiment that a long association with a party such as the Liberal party then was must have inevitably raised, and to accustom themselves to the new order of things. They had also to fight against the odium that invariably attaches to parties that leave their leaders in the manner they did. It was under these conditions that the long Parliament of 1886-92 passed away, and though in Mr. Chamberlain the Liberal-Unionists possessed a leader who had by that time won an unequalled reputation as a debater and astute politician, their position had not materially improved by 1892. But what the Tories were not disposed to give in 1886 they are obliged to give in 1895, not by any willingness of mind or by any

feeling of good-fellowship, but by necessity. Nine years ago the Liberal-Unionists could not claim copartnership in power; to-day they are given it without asking. The personal force and power of the Duke of Devonshire and Mr. Chamberlain render these men of considerable weight and influence in the chambers in which they respectively sit, and this alone would make it well nigh impossible for them to be neglected in the formation of a Conservative Cabinet; but another reason more potent than this is that, in these days of narrow majorities and conglomerate parties, the voting strength of the Liberal-Unionists is not to be despised. Mr. Chamberlain is not the man to give something for nothing; the *quid pro quo* of the vote of his party is power, and that, too, in no restricted measure. Important posts have been liberally dealt out to the leading men of his party, so much so that capable and deserving Conservatives have been passed over. The feeling among the younger Tories, who lack the discreet silence of age, is pretty generally expressed that the Conservatives have been shelved. It is, in fact, the triumph of a party who have passed through intolerance and suspicion into full favor, and it denotes the maturity of a policy which has passed through the youthful follies of "three acres and a cow," the "abolition of the House of Lords" and such like. We may now expect many useful reforms which will confer upon the people lasting benefits—reforms that will be the virile outcome of Mr. Chamberlain's socialistic wild oats, but which will be chastened, however, by the hand of the Marquis of Salisbury.

Bimetallists here have made the most extensive and vigorous preparation for the contest which is now raging all over the country. A head Parliamentary office has been opened here, from which large quantities of literature and leaflets are sent out daily to every part of the country for distribution. This literature has been most carefully prepared, and contains the facts of the case in a succinct and simple form. In addition to this, posters have been displayed here and in the county boroughs, calling upon all electors to give their attention to the subject. This is the first general election at which anything of the sort has been done, and bimetallists are confident that the next Parliament will have a decided bimetallic majority.

In addition to this, the Executive Council of the Bimetallic League have issued a manifesto which has been placed in the hands of the electors of the United Kingdom. In this manifesto, after alluding to the great evils caused to trade and industry by the fall in prices, the Executive Council says:

"Recent official statements and Parliamentary resolutions show that the governments of France, Germany and the United States are anxious to find some mitigation of the evils of the single gold standard by joining in an international agreement for the remonetization of silver. This country alone blocks the way, thus sacrificing her agriculture, her most important industries, her trade with silver-using countries, and her good name in India, to the supposed interests of a misguided section of the capitalist class.

"In view of the gravity of the present crisis, the serious evils which threaten the trade, commerce and agriculture of the United Kingdom, and the overwhelming arguments in favor of international bimetallicism, the Bimetallic League calls upon every elector to give monetary reform a foremost place in arriving at the momentous decision which he is now called upon to make."

This appeal to the electorate is backed up by a series of three questions which have been put, or at all events will be put before the elections are over, to every candidate for Parliamentary honors. These questions are as follows:

"1. Are you in favor of steps being taken to secure a settlement of the currency question by international agreement at the earliest possible date? 2. Are you in favor of a return to the monetary system under which the trade of the world was practically conducted until the year 1873, the ratio between gold and silver money to be fixed by international agreement? 3. If elected, will you vote in favor of the United Kingdom joining in an international conference for the purpose of restoring the joint use of gold and silver as full legal tender money?"

The responses to these questions have been favorable up to the present. The reply in particular of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, who to everyone's surprise, has been appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer instead of Mr. Goschen, has been gratifying to all bimetallists. In answer to one of his constituents on the subject he says:

"There is nothing which appears to me to require greater caution than the adoption of any change in our system of currency, for the result of such changes are most difficult to predict, and might be most disastrous to the country. But I agree with you so far as this, that I should like an international attempt to be made to diminish the use of gold and increase the use of silver for coinage purposes, and I shall readily support any steps towards that end."

This announcement has had a wide circulation in the press, and has produced a deep impression. It confirms the view that some hold that the present Ministry would look favorably upon an attempt to restore bimetallism by international agreement. Certainly this open declaration of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, who on all hands was considered a hopeless monometallist, does much to clear the way to a solution of the question. There are not many avowed monometallists left in the Cabinet now; and these may either be outvoted or induced to give up their views, should the subject come finally under their consideration. It is perhaps idle to prophesy until the elections are over, but the general opinion of the country seems to point to a desire to have the matter settled. Labor leaders see in bimetallism a specific remedy for the frequently occurring strikes and lockouts; agriculturists see in it better prices for the produce of their lands; and traders, shippers and producers see in it the revival in trade which is so badly wanted at present.

It is not surprising, therefore, that they are all supporters of an attempt to have the question settled; and they are determined that it shall be settled at this election, as far as their votes can influence the issue.

G. W.

FOREIGN FACTS AND FANCIES.

The manner in which Protestantism in the south of Ireland is decreasing, mainly through emigration, can be inferred from the fact that in the parish of Killarney, according to the rector, Archdeacon Wynne, there was in 1889 a total church population of 268 persons, while last year there were in the same parish only 178 church people.

An improved path has been made up Vesuvius which starts from Pompeii. It is managed by the directors of the Hotel Diomedea at Pompeii, and to a good pedestrian the labor is not excessive. The ascent is made on ponies to the base of the cone, the same as in the cable road on the other side of the mountain, but the cone itself is reached on foot.

Paris has organized an anti-bicycle league, each member of which pledges himself never to attempt to get out of the way of a bicycle, but heroically to allow himself to be run down if necessary. As a collision is usually more disastrous to the man on the wheel than to the pedestrian there is method in this resolution, but it must require nerve to face an oncoming wheel.

Brigandage appears still to be rife in the Caucasus. Some little time back the inhabitants of the village of Khodshaan succeeded in capturing one of the band of Nabi, a celebrated bandit chief, and hanged him off-hand. Since then they have kept a vigilant watch. Later, however, Nabi, with all his band, made a descent upon Khodshaan and after murdering every male inhabitant reduced the place to ashes.

The report sent in to the Russian Government by the commission appointed to inquire into the charges made against General Anenkoff, constructor of the Trans-Caspian railway, it is alleged, discloses embezzlements between 1892 and 1894, amounting in all to 1,500,000 roubles, in the administrative department of the relief works in aid of the sufferers from the famine ordered by the late Czar and placed under the direction of General Anenkoff.

An immense quantity of music, some of which had not been disturbed since the time of Frederick the Great, was discovered in the Royal Castle at Berlin about six years ago, and it has been found to comprise almost the whole of the music performed at the Prussian court from the middle to the end of the eighteenth century. The work of sorting and editing the collection has just been completed, and the catalogue consists of nearly 400 pages. It includes many forgotten operas, a quantity of ballet music, early symphonies and chamber works, folk songs and dances, and a splendid collection of military music.

An interesting experiment in turning large farms into small holdings, which may help to solve the agricultural problem in England, was recently completed in Dorsetshire. Sir Robert Edgecombe, seven years ago, bought a farm of 343 acres, spent money in building roads and wells, divided it up into twenty-five holdings of from two to thirty-three acres, and offered them for sale, payment to be made in ten equal annual installments. Purchasers were readily found of all trades and classes, eight only being agricultural laborers, and all the installments, with slight exceptions, have already been paid off. Instead of a farmer and three laborers, there are now twenty-five families of seventy-five persons on the land, which has increased in value from £170 to £313 a year.

SOCIOLOGICAL SUBJECTS.

WHETHER thrall'd or exil'd,
Whether poor or rich thou be,
Whether praised or reviled,
Not a rush it is to thee;
This nor that thy rest doth win thee,
But the mind that is within thee.

The new city directory gives Chicago a population of 1,695,000, an increase of 60,000 during the year.

Work has been provided for the unemployed for the past five years in forty-nine large towns in France.

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.—James i. 12.

The movement in favor of summer outings for poor children in London and other large cities of England is stronger this year than ever. Philadelphia was the first big city to move in this matter many years ago.

A society for the suppression of scandal has just been founded at Insterburg, in Germany. The aim of the society is to suppress the too free use of the tongues of malicious traducers, with which the town, it is alleged, is beleaguered, and more promptly to punish the offenders.

The 9-o'clock curfew ordinance, so popular in other Minnesota towns, will soon be adopted in Duluth. The proposed ordinance prohibits all persons under fifteen years old from appearing on the street after 9 o'clock, and provides a penalty of \$100 fine or ninety days in jail for violating the law.

A report to the English Parliament shows that from 1877 to 1893 inclusive, 353 English convicts were sentenced to be flogged under laws which allow this punishment to be inflicted in certain gross cases of assault. It is said that such crimes have not diminished in frequency as a result of the severity of the punishment.

In 1894 the population of the United Kingdom, according to the Registrar-General's return, was 38,776,154. England and Wales having 30,060,763, Scotland 4,124,691, and Ireland 4,590,700. The birth-rate for the year in England and Wales was the smallest on record, 29.6 per 1,000 less than the mean for the last ten years; the death-rate (16.6 per 1,000) was also the lowest on record, being 1.5 per 1,000 less than the previous lowest rate, that for 1888, and 2.6 lower than the ten-year average.

MARIAR JANE.

MARIAR JANE hez lived with me
Nigh onto twenty year,
And she haint got the least idee
Of the "New Woman's" sphere.

Mariar Jane is more consarned
When yeast's contrariwise,
Than 'bout the things she never larned
In earth and seas and skies.

Mariar Jane don't know a thing
Of women's wrongs and rights,
But she's a splendid one to sing
The babes to sleep o' nights.

Mariar Jane 'ud wonder some
If she wuz asked to vote,
She'd say the country 'd keep plumb
Without her in the boat.

Mariar Jane may not be jest
Advanced as some may be,
But I'd not change her for the best,
Mariar Jane suits me!

SUSIE M. BEST.

A WORD WITH THE DOCTOR.

PHENACETINE is a very good remedy for neuralgic pains in the head. Take from 5 to 10 grains every three hours.

**

For a weak person when bathing a gill of ammonia or some rock salt in a small tub of water is a wonderful invigorator, almost as good as a sea bath. Try it.

**

Clover tea is a good remedy for whooping cough. Stew the dry branches and blossoms in water until of the desired strength, according to the child's age, then pour off, cool and sweeten to taste. It has a mild taste.

**

For frequently recurring headaches here is a mixture that will be found somewhat efficacious. Take a teaspoonful every three hours. Citrate of caffeine, 32 grains; bromide of soda, 1 ounce; elixir of guarana, 4 ounces.

**

For painful sore feet caused by excessive walking, long standing or constant movement, as in the use of the sewing machine, a dusting powder of equal parts of precipitated chalk and tannin, or the tannin alone, will be of much service. Apply twice daily after bathing the feet in warm water.

**

H. J. R., Manchester, N. H.—To enjoy refreshing sleep you should sleep in the dark. The sweetest and most undisturbed sleep is always enjoyed in a darkened room. Light acts upon the brain, and those that sleep with their blinds up will find that, in the summertime especially, when so few hours are really dark, their sleep is not restful or refreshing.

**

A doctor in South Africa claims to have discovered a new method of curing disease, which he terms "lacteopathy."

It struck him, he says, that, as milk absorbs poisonous germs from a bucket, it might also be used to absorb poisonous germs and gases from the body.

He put his idea to the test, and now claims to have cured people of smallpox, fevers, diphtheria, spinal disease, and many other maladies by simply wrapping the patients in milk sheets.

He lays his patients on a mattress covered with blankets, takes a sheet just large enough to envelop the body, warms it, saturates it with about a pint and a half of warm milk, opens it without wringing it, and wraps his patient in it for about an hour, subsequently sponging him over with warm water or putting him into a warm bath.

He declares that in one bad case of smallpox, where the eruption was well out, the milk sheet drew the poison so entirely from the skin that the next day the eruption disappeared and the man was convalescent.

NOTES ABOUT NEWSPAPERS.

MME. ADAM has charge of *La Nouvelle Revue*, of which M. George Hugo has just been appointed sub-director.

**

The Helena (Mont.) *Herald* looks as handsome as a bride in its new dress. It is set by the Mergenthaler machines, and is the pioneer daily of bustling Montana.

**

Carl H. Fowler, son of Bishop Fowler, of the M. E. Church, is now the managing editor of the *Minnesota Magazine*, which is "devoted to the State University of Minnesota and the general public."

**

A descriptive writer in the *Buffalo Courier* tells about the burning of the steamer *Cibola* as "a lurid sensation." As "lurid" means "wan, gloomy, dismal," it's difficult to see how it fitly applies to a blazing boat.

**

Our old friend George De Haven, who has just become editor of the *Chicago Mail*, was a salesman in a mercantile house until 1880, when he became manager of the advertising department of the Pennsylvania Railroad. In 1884 he was promoted to the position of division passenger agent at Baltimore, and in 1887 he was offered and accepted the assistant general passenger agency of the New York, Lake Erie and Western, which place he resigned to become general passenger agent of the Chicago and West Michigan Railway, with headquarters at Grand Rapids. He has shown great ability as a railroad man.

**

The leading editorial paragraph of the *Weekly Tribune*, Butler, Mont., remarks that "if the editor of the *New Northwest* wants anything from the *Tribune* he can have it!" A double column display advertisement placed significantly on the same editorial page tells its readers that the Butler Undertaking Company, practical undertakers and embalmers, are "open for business day and night." For the purpose of showing its friendly feeling for the scribe who presumes to rule the destinies of the *New Northwest*, the *Tribune* publishes another paragraph, which gently and modestly insinuates that "the Dublin jay who edits the *Deer Lodge New Northwest* is a prejudiced ass. Yesterday while the picnickers were in the Garden City he wore green spectacles to protect his eyes from the yellow ribbons worn by the visitors. He will probably petition Marcus Daly to have the wearing of yellow prohibited in the future."

**

Apropos of newspaper making of the future, Kohlsaats's *Chicago Times-Herald* predicts that within a year or two there will be important changes in the mode and means of newspaper making. The reporter will send both description and picture by telautograph; and the reporter of the future is going to draw as well as to write. The editor, whether in his office or temporarily residing at a distant point, will telautograph his orders and his ideas, and, by an improvement now being perfected, he will receive telautographic proofs in return. Writers on newspapers will become users of a machine in process of construction by which the present typewriter keyboard will not only set their ideas into print, but will also instantaneously put them into type, eliminating the machine typesetter as the machine itself has eliminated the hand-compositor, and as the steam press eliminated the hand-press. These are only a few of the changes in the near future of journalism. These, and others bound to come, will not injure anyone, but will divert to other profitable fields labor now occupied immediately between the writer and the press. By cheapening the cost of producing a newspaper, these changes will improve the business and make it more beneficial to mankind.

OPEN DOORS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN.

Dear Sir: In the struggle for American Independence the Colonists who clung to the mother country were known as Tories, and did much to retard the successful issue of the Revolution, which latter meant not only the legislative, but the commercial and financial independence of this country.

Their modern counterparts are the gold-monometallists of the Eastern States, who are not only lacking in faith in the ability of this country to adopt and follow an independent American financial policy, but who, by reason of lack of knowledge, stubborn prejudice, personal predilection or selfish interests, are either as unreasoning in their worship of the single gold standard as the ancient Ephesians were in their loyalty to their goddess Diana, or are pro-British in their sympathies.

The American Tories of Revolutionary times were found in all the thirteen Colonies, and usually belonged to the wealthier class—officials, merchants, large landowners and conspicuous members of the Colonial aristocracy. It was largely the common people and middle classes—"the masses," in fact—who, realizing and appreciating the principles involved in the Revolution, fought and bled and made untold personal sacrifices for the cause of liberty.

The gold-monometallist Tories of to-day are found chiefly in the Eastern States, and also belong to the wealthier class—Federal officeholders, bankers, capitalists, members of the plutocracy and those subject to their influence, as, for instance, metropolitan newspapers. It is the wage-earning and producing classes, from the Pacific even to the Atlantic, who are fast realizing the growing necessity of gold and silver bimetallism without waiting for the gracious permission of any foreign power.

In the Revolution, New York was the stronghold of the American Tories, and contained more of them than any other Colony. She withheld both men and money from the national cause. While Massachusetts furnished 67,907 soldiers for the Colonial army between 1775 and 1783, New York only supplied 17,781. In adjusting the war balances after the peace, Massachusetts, as was then ascertained, had overpaid her share to the extent of \$1,248,801, while New York was in arrear as to her share \$2,074,846.

To-day New York City is the most un-American community both as to nativity and sentiment in the United States. The average New Yorker is the cockney of America, for his egotism is only equaled by his ignorance of his own country. The sweating shops and tenement-house factories of New York, which prejudicially affect the wages of self-respecting labor throughout the United States, swarm with the festering scum of Europe. Its municipal affairs have in the past been notoriously, and are to a large extent still, dominated by a class who are a discredit to their race and birthplace. Its upper classes ape the snobbery of England, even to the extent of docking their horses' tails. Its financial magnates hold on servilely to the coat tails of the Rothschilds. And this city is the vaunted center and stronghold of gold-monometallism in America! No wonder the name of New York is a by-word and reproach and "stink in the nostrils" among all self-respecting Americans.

On 25th June, 1775, a letter was received by the New York Provincial Congress, which communicated intelligence that General Washington was on his way to headquarters at Cambridge and would cross the Hudson and visit the city. News came at the same time that the British Governor Tryon was in the harbor, just arrived from England, and would land that day. The Congress ordered a colonel so to dispose of his militia companies that they might be in a condition to receive "either the

general, or Governor Tryon, whichever should first arrive, and wait on both as well as circumstances would allow."

That is the attitude to-day of the professional time-serving politicians and several Presidential candidates. They are waiting to see which way they are to face, and they may as well be prepared for the restoration of bimetallism as it existed in this country from the foundation of the Republic up to 1873.

In 1788 the American Tories of New York City, to assist their British allies, made it a business to counterfeit the paper of the government of the young Republic in order to increase its financial embarrassment.

In 1894 the American Tories of New York City, to assist their European principals and confederates, raided the United States Treasury of gold, buncoed a suspiciously complacent government into issuing government bonds, thereby largely increasing the national debt in time of peace, and made immense profits on the manipulation of such bonds, the particulars of the division of such profits not being yet known.

In 1776 the American Tories allied themselves with Indians in depredations and forays on the settlements and homes of American patriots, leaving behind them a wide trail of death, destruction and ruin.

In the present generation the American single gold standard Tories allied themselves with the Jews and plutocracy, and by appreciating gold and depreciating all other values have devastated a thousand American homes where their prototypes ruined one.

In December, 1779, the American Tories enrolled as soldiers under the British flag to suppress the Revolution numbered about 5,000 men, and from first to last during the war of Independence furnished about 25,000 men to the British army. Previous to the evacuation of New York City by the British troops upwards of 12,000 men, women and children, all American Tory families, voluntary exiles, embarked at that city, at Long and Staten Islands, for Nova Scotia and the Bahamas.

In 1895 every American advocate of the single gold standard is as much a misguided citizen and enemy of the welfare, prosperity and financial independence of his own country as were those 25,000 men who wore King George's uniform and fought under the British standard against their own countrymen.

History will still further repeat itself, for throughout the East, among the wage-earners and others, even of New York City, there are men as loyal to America as those New York patriots of 1775 who took possession of the office of Rivington's *Gazette*, a pro-English paper, and amid the cheers of an assembled crowd broke the press and carried off the type. The country is being rapidly educated, by force of circumstances, on the issue of gold and silver bimetallism vs. gold-monometallism, and so surely as the principles of the Revolution were eventually carried to victory over a century ago by "the masses against the classes," so surely will bimetallism have to be restored in the United States as a matter of sound national statesmanship. The rabid American gold-monometallist Tories of to-day, if not then content with America, will have the privilege of embarking for other countries, in which case it can be said:

"True patriots they, for be it understood
They left their country for their country's good."

THOMAS TONGE.

Denver, July, 1895.

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THE INTERESTS OF THE DEBTOR CLASS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN.

Dear Sir: Many writers who oppose the remonetizing of silver claim that it is a movement wholly in the interests of the debtor class, and opposed to the interests of the larger and more thrifty creditor class. This is boldly claimed in a recent magazine article, "A New Way to Pay Old Debts."*

* Nineteenth Century, June, 1895.

It is assumed by all these writers that the population is divided into these two classes. The truth is that very few of our people are not both debtor and creditor. A man may owe less than there is due him and be called solvent, yet suffer from the shrinkage of values. The amount he owes may be small in comparison with the large properties he owns, yet it may all be jeopardized by his inability to realize money from his depreciating realty. He may have his property in mortgages and stocks and other evidences of indebtedness in money, yet from the failure of other debtors he may be utterly unable to meet the demands of his creditors and himself become a defaulting debtor. Many who have thought themselves secure with second mortgages have lost all because the property was taken by the holder of the first mortgage. Holders of the first claims have failed in many cases to realize the full face of their mortgages in money, though at the time the loan was made it was regarded as equal to twice the amount secured by it. Railroads have failed to pay dividends upon their stock and interest upon their bonds, while the innocent holders of these securities, "widows and dependent maidens," in the pathetic language of these pleaders, are surprised to find themselves suddenly in the debtor class.

It is a new and false idea that it is to the interest of the creditors to make it hard for the debtor to pay his debts. The man who loans money to an honest borrower, whom he knows must make the capital productive or he cannot repay principal and interest, inquires carefully into the nature of the business and its possible profits, that he may be sure of its prompt repayment. The creditor should assist the debtor in securing a good price for his wheat, or cotton, or farm, or iron, or wool and product or property of every kind, that he may be able to repay with interest. It is an advance on Shylock himself to make a loan and then deliberately set to hinder the incoming ships for the very purpose of making it hard for merchant Antonio to repay him his ducats.

In a broad view the interests of the creditor and debtor are the same. What are credits worth if the debtor cannot pay? Make it possible for the debtor to pay and you make happy creditors.

REV. J. C. ELLIOTT.

Akron, Ohio, July 8, 1895.

* *

A SOURCE OF DANGER WHICH SHOULD BE HEEDED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN.

Dear Sir: Our friends, the enemies of silver, are exceedingly unwise not to heed the grave danger which Mr. James Barbour pointedly referred to in his separate report to the Royal Commission on gold and silver, of which he was an able member. What he there called "false" coinage—the issue by private parties of full weight silver coinage—was regarded as a danger when bar silver was 47 pence per ounce.

The greater danger from such illicit coinage the monometallists appear to be as oblivious to, as they are to all our arguments in favor of bimetallism.

When silver fell to 30 pence the temptation was too great, and we see paragraph after paragraph about dangerous *counterfeits* of full-weight coin. Why not? When men are deprived of "opportunity" to follow honest methods for a livelihood, and the unemployed become ready to commit crime, what affords a better opening than the wide margin between the coin and the white metal?

In former days buccaneers risked their lives to overhaul and capture Spanish vessels for the treasure, and prominent men in England of the court circles invested in the piratical expeditions. Even Queen Elizabeth has been charged with being interested in them.

What is to hinder the use of silver by coinage outside of the mints? Where is the silver which the mines have produced since the closure of the Indian mints and the repeal of our Silver-purchasing act?

In what market is it? May it not prove that the precious metal, rejected at the behest of securityholders for their unlawful gain, has been seized by men who have no more regard for equity and law than they for private gain? "Lead us not into temptation" is the grand lesson taught by Christians, unheeded by the blind idolators who have chosen gold for their god, who thus tempt with open doors the utterance of false coinage.

J. W. PORTER.

Charlottesville, July 8, 1895.

SOME QUERIES ANSWERED.

JOHN ROGERS, New York.—Yes; the extract of witch-hazel can be used on the face with safety.

* *

R. W. PARK, Apache, Col.—According to the latest and, we are assured, the most reliable returns Chicago has 160,000 residents of German birth.

* *

G. A. MASON, New York.—Recent surveys show that one-sixth of the State of Oregon, something over 10,000,000 acres, is covered with dense forests.

* *

L. SCHWARTZ, Phila.—There are 26,000 members in the Order B'nai Berith, and it has 10 grand lodges and 383 lodges. It exists in America, Palestine, Egypt, Austria, Germany and Roumania.

* *

WM. MAXWELL, Baltimore, Md., writes: "Please inform me how I can prevent the recurrence of styes? I have had a number of them." Take a one-fifth grain pill of sulphide of calcium every three hours. Also take a good dose of Rochelle salts before breakfast several times a week.

* *

JESSE RUSSELL, Phila.—Opinions of experienced men differ materially on that subject. The superintendent of a large wood-engraving establishment says that women never succeed in that business. Men look upon it as a life work; women as a means of subsistence until they get husbands. It is only the best and the poorest wood engraving that can find a place in the world of illustration since photo-engraving has reached its present perfection. The best wood engraving still has some fine qualities that photo-engraving cannot reach, while the poorest wood engraving is cheaper, and therefore more suitable for some purposes than good photo-engraving.

* *

PATRICK BURKE, Atlantic City, N. J.—Bequests of hearts have been by no means uncommon. Richard Cœur de Lion bequeathed his heart to the canons of Rouen Cathedral, and in July, 1838, this remarkable relic was once again brought to light after the lapse of six centuries; the heart, which is said to have been surprisingly large, was inclosed in boxes of lead and silver, and withered, as it was described, to the semblance of a faded leaf.

Bruce's heart was by his dying wish intrusted to Douglas, to fulfill a vow, which he had been unable to execute in person, of visiting the sepulchre of Christ. Douglas, "tender and true," promised to fulfill his sovereign's last request, and after Bruce's death, having received the heart incased in a casket of gold, set forth upon his mission. Proceeding to Spain, however, he fell in the thick of a fight with the Moors, having previous to his final charge cast the heart of Bruce from his breast, when he carried it into the ranks of the infidels, crying, "Onward as thou wert wont; Douglas will follow thee!" Bruce's heart was afterward recovered by Sir Simon Lockhart, by whom it was brought to Scotland and buried along with the bones of Douglas in the Abbey of Melrose. When the remains of Bruce were disinterred at Dunfermline, in 1819, the breastbone was found sawn through so as to permit of the removal of the heart.

SUMMER GRAND OPERA.

"L'AFRICAINNE."

ON the night of July 17th, for the first time in four years, Meyerbeer's "L'Africaine" was produced before one of the largest and most appreciative audiences ever assembled within the Grand Opera House, the cast being likewise exceptionally fine, as it contained such artists as Mesdames Kronold-Koert and Van Cauteren; Signors Del Puente and Viviani, and Monsieur Guille, who, if mentioned last, was much to the fore, notwithstanding, in the matter of meritorious performance.

Though far less popular and famous than "The Huguenots," the opera of "L'Africaine" is a most powerful piece of lyric and dramatic composition, which appeals forcibly to the poetic sentiment, and in which the remarkable histrionic intuition of Meyerbeer's genius gleams like a will-o'-the-wisp athwart the successive numbers of the score; while no less remarkable at every point are the manifestations of the composer's skill and mastership in the elaboration and juxtaposition of thematic effects. And, albeit the libretto contains some incongruities that now and then seem rather too sensational and melodramatic, one easily ignores them in consideration of the brilliant music that accompanies them.

Madame Kronold-Koert enacted Selika with peculiarly keen appreciation of the part, and increased the excellence of her impersonation of the captive Indian princess with every scene and every act, until she wrought out the grand climax of the death scene beneath the manchineel tree. No loss of ardor nor of comprehension of his role did Signor Del Puente display, either; and he looked quite savage enough to do honor to the wild outbursts of melody issuing from his lips as he acted the part of Nelusko. Little Monsieur Guille seemed, also, particularly pleased with the idea of personating the celebrated Vasco de Gama, and to have infused into himself a goodly share of the bold, enterprising spirit of the Portuguese navigator; for, like Madame Kronold-Koert, he augmented the interest of the audience in his work with each succeeding scene, and was strikingly effective in the parting from Selika.

The choruses showed to less advantage than anything else about the performance. Yet even with every theatrical aid to their representation, Meyerbeer's (like Wagner's) operas offer immense difficulties; and surely, with Mr. Hinrichs' merely summer operatic equipment and inadequate time for rehearsal, the musical public ought not to demand a great deal in the matter of *mise en scene*. As for the orchestra, Mr. Hinrichs made it a credit to itself as well as to his own efficiency, and the overture and each prelude to the various acts were beautifully rendered, the weird, sad music that announces the self-sacrifice of Selika being especially well played, and eliciting from the audience the hushed attention that, as a rule, indicates greater, because more sympathetic, interest and appreciation than vociferous applause.

"La Gioconda," was performed on the night before "L'Africaine," and this evening the summer season of grand opera closes with the production of "I Pagliacci" and "Il Trovatore," after a week containing such works as "The Barber of Seville" and "Lohengrin." Mr. Hinrichs will shortly depart from Philadelphia in order to secure abroad the necessary artistic element to render thoroughly superior his forthcoming winter season of grand opera.

WILLIAM STRUTHERS.

POINTERS ABOUT PROMINENT PEOPLE.

HENRI ROCHEFORT, following the example of Zola and Jules Claretie, rides a bicycle.

Emilio Castelar has been made Foreign Associate of the French Academy of Moral Sciences, in place of Cesare Cantu, the Italian historian.

S. R. Crockett, the Scottish novelist, worked his way through Edinburgh University on less than \$2 a week. He is a farmer's son and was accustomed to "roughing it" in his youth.

Alexandre Dumas, fils, remained a widower a very short time. He has just married Mme. Regnier, widow of the actor. Sardou and Ernest Legouve were the witnesses of the marriage.

Prince Oscar of Prussia, the young son of the Emperor, had his first tooth pulled the other day. It was the birthday of his English governess, and among other presents he sent the tooth to the lady as a gift.

Baron James A. Harden-Hickey, whose "kingdom" of Trinidad Island is said to have been seized by Great Britain, is a son-in-law of John H. Flagler. He was born in California forty-one years ago, has been an editor in Paris, has traveled a great deal, and is reported to be a believer in Buddhism.

Two Anglican clergymen have just joined the Church of Rome. They are the Rev. J. Stansfield, rector of Downham, and the Rev. J. Rawpert Le Fely, curate of Christ Church, Beckenham. Another notable convert to Rome is Mr. Bernard Harrison, the eldest son of the well-known Positivist, Mr. Frederic Harrison.

Pierola, the rebel leader, who has been elected President of Peru, is a handsome man, tall, erect and well proportioned. His hair is slightly tinged with gray, and at the top of his forehead is a white lock that is in singular contrast with the rest. Pierola is distinguished, it is said, for his courtesy. He was once a professor of philosophy in a Lima seminary, and he is a son-in-law of the Mexican Emperor Iturbide.

A bronze tablet is now being cast for the Pilgrim Society of Plymouth, Mass., which will be sent to Scrooby, England. It will bear the following inscription: "This Tablet is Erected by the Pilgrim Society of Plymouth, Massachusetts, United States of America, to Mark the Site of the Ancient Manor House, Where Lived William Brewster from 1588 to 1608, and Where He Organized the Pilgrim Church, of Which He Became Ruling Elder, and with Which in 1608 He Moved to Amsterdam; in 1609, to Leyden, and in 1620 to Plymouth, Where He Died April 16, 1644."

THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW.

A BASHFUL man will make a woman brave.

A great many broken hearts seem to get along very well with patches on them.

"It has been discovered," says the *National Druggist*, "that the famous tree from the bark of which quinine is obtained furnishes no quinine except in malarial regions. If a tree is planted in a malarial district it will produce quinine; if it is planted in a non-malarial district it will not produce quinine. It is therefore claimed that quinine is a malarial poison, drawn from the soil and stored up by this wonderful tree."

The system of judicial corruption became prevalent very early in England and during the reign of King Alfred, who caused forty-four justices to be hanged as murderers in one year for their false judgments.

Some of the judges put to death were:

Cole, because he judged Ivo to death when he was a madman.

Athelston, because he judged Herbert to death for an offense not mortal.

Horne, because he hanged Simon at days forbidden.

Therborne, because he judged Osgot to death for a fact, whereof he was acquitted before, against the same plaintiff, which acquittance he tendered to own by oath, and because he would not allow of the acquittal which he tendered him.

The Suitors of Cirencester, because they kept a man so long in prison that he died there, who would have acquitted him by foreigners that he had offended not feloniously.

One of the singular facts in Alfred's reign was that judges used to take 12 pence from every plaintiff.

AMONG THE PREACHERS.

Y E who have the fear of God
In your bosoms shed abroad,
Who with trembling hope receive
Christ the Saviour, and believe
That his wondrous sacrifice
Is salvation's only price,
Would you have its seal and sign?
Break the bread, and drink the wine.

* *

A ritualistic Church of England clergyman in Cardiff has publicly asserted that the doctrine of the immaculate conception of the Virgin is a necessary complement of the Christian dispensation.

* *

On dit that the Salvation Army is about to undertake an energetic campaign in the far East, and that the initial movement will take place in China, where the leader of the movement is Fong-foo-fing, a Chinaman, and a member of the Salvation Army in San Francisco.

* *

There is an editor in the far West who possesses in a large degree the virtue of caution. He remarked the other day: "It is said that a minister named Parkhurst, in Gotham, is beginning to be talked about as a reformer. We shall keep our eye on him and tell our readers what he amounts to in a month or so."

* *

The finest choir in the world is that of St. Peter's in Rome, known as the Pope's choir. There is not a female voice in it, and yet the most difficult oratories and sacred music are rendered in such a manner as to make one think that Adelina Patti is leading. The choir is composed of sixty boys. They are trained for their work from the time they get control of their vocal chords, and some of the best singers are not over nine years old. At the age of seventeen they are dropped from the choir.

* *

Service for the King says: "From China we read of a new work among the deaf and dumb, which has been begun by the wife of Dr. Mills, of the American Presbyterian Mission. She has started a small school near Chefoo for deaf and dumb boys with a native teacher whom she has trained. The school is chiefly supported by the deaf and dumb of America. Nothing has been done yet for the deaf and dumb girls; funds are needed for this, and also for the training of Christian teachers for this work."

* *

A report in the *London Christian* is to the effect that the American Methodist mission in Singapore has recently bought \$25,000 worth of property for mission houses and other purposes. Dr. West, a medical missionary for some years in Singapore, has been sent to Penang to begin Methodist mission work among the Chinese in that island. There is already a large Anglo-Chinese school work there, as well as in Singapore. This mission has now a large staff of workers, both missionaries and schoolmasters, besides a number of ladies engaged in school and mission work.

BOOK REVIEWS.

I N these days when money is power and the columns of the great daily newspapers and periodicals are closed to the discussion of the silver question, save to those who advocate the gold standard, the advocates of bimetalism intent upon reaching the public ear are met by many obstacles. Baffled when they attempt to discuss the question through the metropolitan press, that most powerful of instruments in reaching the public—a press that professes to make but no longer even reflects public opinion, knowing that it is impossible to get an extended hearing or broad circulation of their views if printed in the local newspapers, finding that such papers as the agricultural, although supporting bimetalism and giving invaluable aid to the cause, must devote themselves to their special interests and can spare but little space for the presentation of the views of others—bimetalists are thrown upon their own resources in getting their arguments before the people. They turn of necessity to the publication of pamphlets and small books, some written with apparent haste and carelessness, but the majority soberly and carefully, some treating of the

general subject and complete studies in themselves, but the majority devoted to the consideration of special sides of the monetary question.

But although the metropolitan press is, as a class, devoted to monometallism, there are, of course, some exceptions, one of the most notable being the *San Francisco Chronicle*, edited by Mr. John P. Young, one of Philadelphia's sons. The *Chronicle* has contained from time to time valuable articles on bimetalism, both by its able editor and others, and the silver question has been discussed with much more than ordinary ability in its editorial pages. But Mr. Young, not satisfied with such piecemeal discussion, has made a veritable departure in journalism, and in a supplement to the *Chronicle* of Sunday, June 30th, presented to the public a full and complete treatise on the great question of the day: Bimetalism or monometallism? Mr. Young has paid special attention to the effects of the appreciation of gold on the manufacturing interests of China and Japan and other silver-using countries, and his chapters showing the resulting threatened and ruinous competition growing out of the fall in silver measured in gold are especially valuable. Mr. Young treats the question scientifically, impartially and from many sides, and we trust the supplement containing his presentation of the question will have a much larger circulation than among the readers of the *Chronicle*.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE QUESTION? FACTS AND FEATURES BEARING UPON THE MONETARY ISSUE. By JUNIUS ROGERS. Pp. 189. Price, 25 cents. Chicago: Vogt & Christley.

GOLD AND SILVER: A BOOK ON THE FINANCIAL QUESTION. By W. O. PEEPLES. Pp. 103. Price, 25 cents. Chattanooga, Tenn.: Gold and Silver Publishing Co.

Of the recent publications bearing on the silver question we may mention "Are You Ready for the Question," by Junius Rogers, and "Gold and Silver," by W. O. Peebles.

Mr. Rogers' book shows that he has thrown his whole heart into the work, and he treats the question with that earnestness which carries conviction. He presents many valuable facts bearing upon the monetary issue, but in a rather disconnected manner, and with some of his assertions we cannot agree. He makes a good point when he emphasizes the fact that "we shall get on quite as well if we buy less of foreign productions, and use and consume goods and products made by our own people and raised within our own borders."

Mr. Peebles treats the subject in a lighter vein, and he holds up the President to ridicule; but he successfully shows that "gold-monometallism means slavery to the masses of the American people," and he shows that the prosperity of merchant and manufacturer, as well as farmer and wage-earner, is dependent upon the restoration of silver to its place as money side by side with gold. Mr. Peebles assures his readers that the masses in the South "know that much more, in dollars and cents, is depending upon the remonetization of silver than there was on the freedom of the negro," and "that a more galling slavery awaits them than Southern slavery" if they do not baffle the assaults of the money-lenders, and he, therefore, has no doubt that the South will be a unit for bimetalism.

MEADOW GRASS: TALES OF NEW ENGLAND LIFE. By ALICE BROWN. Pp. 315. Price, \$1.50. Boston: Copeland & Day.

Messrs. Copeland & Day have published in most attractive form "Tales of New England Life," that are as fresh and wholesome as a draught of water from one of New England's wayside springs, and which will insure some pleasant hours for the summer reader, satiated with the too prevalent style of effervescent literature that is forever in lurking to waylay an idle hour.

THE TWO LANDSCAPES OF SPAIN.

[TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH OF M. RENE-BAZIN.]

YOU have asked me, my friend, to look closely at the Castilian landscape, about which so much evil has been said, so as to describe it to you. This I can already do, having traversed a corner of Leon and one-half of Old Castile, and knowing that New Castile is exactly like Old, while Estremadura, for the most part, differs very slightly from the others. In fact, speaking broadly, if one except the regions lying north and northeast, which are Pyrenean, and that sister of Africa, Andalusia, the land

of contrasts, of palms, red pinks at the foot of snow-clad mountains, scorched crags and green meadows, there are only two varieties of landscapes in Spain.

The first, and less common, is the forest landscape, not like that of France, composed of oaks, elms and tall slim beech trees, but a sparse woodland, a pathless undergrowth strewn with evergreen oaks, whose rounded tops form curves against the clean blueness of the sky. By autumn the sun has faded the crop of grass upspringing among the tree trunks, and there are seen stems of red lilies, now turned an earth color, tufts of dried lavender and thistles six feet in height, so full of branches, so dignified, so Castilian in attitude, that you might deem them church candelabra from which the dust had never been wiped. But the verdure of the oaks does not change. Scarcely is it dimmed by the dust raised by troops of animals, droves of black and brown hogs rooting for acorns, or flocks of sheep and goats, led leisurely along by a shepherd in a peaked hat and a coarse woolen cloak trailing the ground. This forest, unused, or rather plundered by the dwellers in neighboring hamlets, lonesome, and having neither foresters' lodges nor woodchoppers' huts, gives one an impression of wildness and forlornness not conveyed by our woodlands. Sometimes, if it happens to cover a mountain plateau, it will all of a sudden plunge down a ravine, and let one perceive athwart the lacelike openings in the evergreen oak foliage, great spaces of light, shaded tints, indicating the lower plains, hill shadows, roadways and rocks, mingling and vanishing amidst the hazy glinting of the sunshine.

As soon as the forest is left behind commences the great desolate tableland, rocky, and yet cultivated. Old and New Castile and Estremadura, almost half of Spain, are thus in spring one vast field of verdant grain; in summer, one vast field of stubble, upon whose horizon, now clear-cut, anon misty circles of mountain peaks are outlined. Again, the plain stretches a dead level to its utmost boundary, the clouds closing down upon the earth, and the sun rising straight above some furrow. Dreary reaches are here, of which La Beauce can give no idea. There are neither trees nor farmsteads. The men who till the soil come from hamlets far removed from one another, built of yellow stone or else of brick, and hardly to be distinguished from the earth, were it not for the church tower showing rosy in the light. These Castilian peasants arrive in the morning astride their little asses, from which, dismounting, they unpack the provisions carried in two packsaddles strapped to the backs of the beasts, that are then harnessed to the most primitive of plows—a plain wooden share attached to a single handle—by the help of which they will all day long turn over a little fertile dust and a great deal of flint. After seedtime, after harvest, for months the vast space where nothing is sown except wheat, rye and barley, remains stirless, like a great mirror seamed with cracks made by the sun. The least spot on this single-tinted stretch of country attracts one's glance—for instance, a caravan of black mules, with red tassels, starting in the early morning at the hour when, in the immense distance, one begins to perceive the village, the sole village of the plain, appearing smaller and paler unto one than a wild century blossom; or it is a herd of oxen that, close to stones casting shadow, crop the scant grass blades that have escaped the noon-tide heat; or, perchance, it is a mere path traced across the clods by the wandering steps of men or beasts, or a deep fissure, several meters in width, but between whose now dry mud banks, in winter, have rushed devastating floods of rain. Very often even less will strike the eye—say, a little sparrowhawk, pursuing none knows what amid the waste, sweeps by, and seems to bear upon its tawny wings all the life of the plain. I fell asleep in the cars with such a landscape about me, to awaken the next morning and find it identically the same, just as though we had not stirred all night. A Spanish proverb expresses it all in one sentence: "The lark that journeys through Castile should carry its grain along."

WILLIAM STRUTHERS.

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Basement.

JOHN WANAMAKER.

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EDITED BY

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FACTS FOR FINANCIERS.

GOLD deposits have been found near Bokhara by M. Portorsky, a Russian Government mining engineer, which, he asserts, are practically inexhaustible.

One result in the increase of the price of petroleum throughout Germany has been to cause inventors to apply themselves to attempting to devise some sort of substitute for the staple.

Mr. Alexander Del Mar writes that the English money system of pounds, shillings and pence is derived from the Roman imperial system, and that variations of it prevail in Turkey and other Asiatic countries which formerly belonged to Rome.

Recalling the fact that in 1893 England exported 29,000,000 tons of coal, Mr. Andrew Reed writes in the *Fortnightly Review* that "we are doing the cowardly, greedy and unpatriotic act of shipping our island and selling it to foreign peoples." This may be sarcasm, but it seems to be earnestness.

Ivory to the amount of 583,177 pounds was sold last year in Antwerp, which is now one of the principal markets of the world for it; six years before, in 1888, only 14,109 pounds were sold there. There is no fear of an immediate exhaustion of the supply, as the native Africans still hold large quantities.

Japan in 1893 contained 1,006 commercial corporations, with \$101,762,349 of capital; 131 national banks, with \$48,416,100 capital; 11 electric light companies, in which \$2,477,250 was invested, while the investment in railroads was \$73,114,000 and 62 corporations proposed to build 1,400 miles more. A sugar refinery with \$1,000,000 capital has just been started.

The new impulse lately given to gold mining has brought new life to many deserted towns and abandoned camps in the West. One of the most notable of these resurrections—revival does not accurately describe the situation—is in the case of the camp of Florence, Idaho. In 1861 this camp had a population of 30,000 people, with banks, saloons, hotels and everything that goes to the making of a city. It was a placer camp, and gold was plentiful as gravel, while it lasted. But it didn't last long, and in those bonanza days miners would not stay to work quartz. So the population deserted Florence as quickly as it came, and for many years the town was absolutely deserted, and as much a ruin as ancient Carthage. Recently several good quartz ledges have been discovered at the old camp, and Florence is building up again.

NUGGETS AND NUBBINS.

BABIES are described as coupons attached to the bonds of matrimony, but no paper gives a prize for collecting them.

Nell—I wouldn't be in your shoes for anything.
Belle (sweetly)—You couldn't get into them, my dear.

Upon a gentleman's tomb in Warwickshire we read that he was "accidentally shot by his gamekeeper." Under this piece of information is the text, "Well done thou good and faithful servant."

Mamma—I hope you said something pleasant when you gave Tommy his birthday gift?

Bob—Yes'm; I told him he was welcome to it, for it was one I had left over from last year.

Daughter (delightedly)—And did you really consent?
Father—Consent? My stars! I had to. The man demanded your hand like a highwayman holding up a coach. Consent? My goodness gracious! I believe from the way he looked and acted, he would have knocked me down if I hadn't.
Daughter—Oh! it can't be. You must have been dreaming.
Why, when he proposed to me he trembled so that he could hardly speak, and he looked so weak and nervous I had to hurry up and say "Yes" to keep him from fainting.

A schoolboy asked to define the word "sob" whispered out: "It means when a feller don't want to cry and it bursts out itself."

Mother—I suppose Jack stole a lot of kisses last night?
Alice—No, indeed, mamma. I wouldn't allow him to do such a thing. I gave them to him.

"That snake, gentlemen, was at least 90 feet—"
"Ha, ha! Ho, ho! Rats! Scat! Come off, colonel! Give us a bigger one to begin the season with—"
"Yes, sah, it wuz 90 feet, and it might be 95—"
"Ach! Where's Munchausen, De Foe, Eli Perkins, Wiggins—"

"But it couldn't have been less'n 90 feet from—"
"From tip to tip of his wing! Hip! Whooray! Colonel's found the sea serpent, dragon and woolly horse all combined—"
"No, sah, not from tip to tip, neithah, sah!"
"Ninety feet from what, then, colonel?"
"Why, sah, 90 feet from me, an' I was blamed cahful 'at he didn't git any closah, sah—"
"Come up, colonel, come up!"
As they were downing the last round one of the skeptics quietly asked:
"Colonel, how long really was that snake?"
"About 4 feet, sah!"



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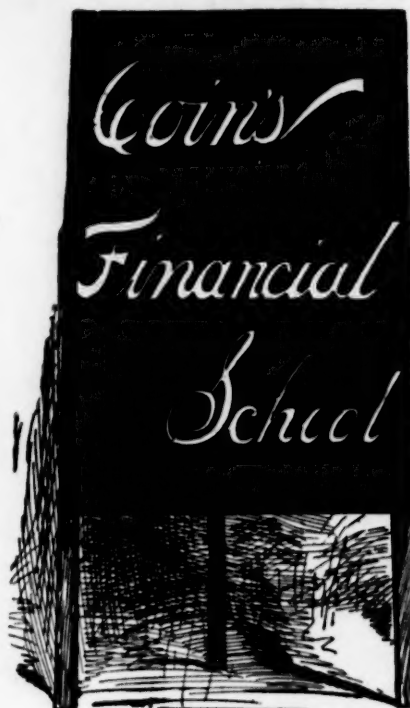
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